

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 7-13 without prejudice to filing one or more divisional applications.

Please amend claim 1, 14, 15, 19, 20, as follows:

INS
E1
C1
Ab
D2

1. (Amended) Peptide containing less than 50 amino acids, comprising at least one dimer of the type XG, wherein X stands for a N^G-mono- or N^G-N^G-dimethylated arginine (asymmetrical dimethyl arginine) or N^G-N^G-dimethylated arginine (symmetrical dimethyl arginine), that is able to react with antibodies and with said methylation being crucial for the reaction between said peptide and said antibodies and wherein said antibodies are present in sera from patients with:

systemic lupus erythematosus, or

infectious, recurrent or chronic mononucleosis or infection, or

certain cancers which are related to infection with Epstein-Barr.

C2

14. (Amended) [An immunotoxin molecule comprising and/or consisting of cell recognition molecule being a] A peptide of claim 1, [or an antibody thereof,] covalently bound to a toxin molecule or active fragment thereof.

15. (Amended) [A medicament comprising a] A peptide according to claim [1] 14, wherein said peptide is suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle [or an antibody to said peptide, or an immunotoxin molecule comprising a toxin molecule covalently bound to said peptide or said antibody].

19. (Amended) A diagnostic kit for use in detecting auto-immune diseases such as:
systemic lupus erythematosus, discoid lupus erythematosus, scleroderma,
dermatomyositis, rheumatoid arthritis, Sjögren's syndrome,
or for detecting diseases in which Epstein-Barr can be implicated such as:

Burkitt's lymphoma, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, Hodgkin's disease, infectious, recurrent
or chronic mononucleosis,

said kit comprising at least one peptide according to claim 1, [or an antibody thereof] with said
peptide [or antibody] optionally bound to a solid support.

20. (Amended) A diagnostic kit according to claim 19, said kit comprising a range of
peptides according to claim 1 [or of antibodies thereof] optionally in combination with native
methylated SmD1 or SmD3 and recombinant unmethylated SmD1 or SmD3, wherein said
peptides are attached to specific locations on a solid substrate.

REMARK

I. Rationale and Support for the Amendment of the claims

Claims 7-13 have been cancelled and claims 14, 15, 19, 20 have been amended solely in
response to the Examiner's restriction requirement.

Support for the Amendment of claim 1 is found at page 10, lines 27-29, and at page 12,
line 3 through page 13, line 22. Support for the amendment of claim 15 is found at page 4, lines
9 and 10, and at page 23, lines 18-21.

II. Election/Restriction requirement

A. Groups designated by Examiner

The Examiner has alleged that the currently pending claims contains the following groups
of inventions:

Group I, claims 1-3, 5, 15 (in part), 19-22 (in part) and 23, drawn to linear peptides.

Group II, claims 4, 15 (in part), and 19-22 (in part), drawn to circularized peptides.